

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bricker et al.

Art Unit: 2831

Serial No.: 10/659,156

Examiner: Nguyen, Chau N.

Filed: September 10, 2003

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For: CABLE JACKET WITH

INTERNAL SPLINES

### **DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION**

(37 C.F.R. § 1.131)

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Richard Walter Speer, whose address is 5154 Nicole Road, Kernersville, North Carolina 27284 declares as follows:

- 1. This declaration is to establish conception of the invention claimed in the abovereferenced application at a date prior to March 14, 2003.
- 2. I have reviewed and understand the patent application referenced in the caption above (hereafter "Subject Application"), including the specification, abstract, drawings and claims therefor.
- 3. I have reviewed United States Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0055779 titled "Communication Wire" filed on March 14, 2003 and published March 25, 2004, which, on information and belief, is being relied on in at least one rejection of the claims of the Subject Application (hereafter "Antedated Reference").
- 4. I am a co-inventor with Michael Wayne Bricker of the invention(s) recited in the claims of the Subject Application (hereafter "Claimed Invention").

- 5. The Claimed Invention of the Subject Application was conceived by my co-inventor and I before March 14, 2003 which is the filing date of the Antedated Reference.
  - 6. The Claimed Invention was conceived in the United States.
- 7. As evidence that the Claimed Invention of the Subject Application was conceived before the filing date of the Antedated Reference, attached is a true and accurate copy of a preliminary invention disclosure (PID number 2002246) (hereafter "PID 2002246") that was prepared in connection with the Subject Application (see Attachment A).
- 8. PID 2002246 is dated December 13, 2002 and is entitled "Involute Spline Jacket" and includes one page of text and two pages of drawings attached thereto describing and illustrating the invention that was conceived.
- 9. The drawings attached to PID 2002246 are hand drawn sketches recorded in notebooks carried by my coinventor and I.
- 10. One of the sketches attached to PID 2002246 is dated May 5, 2002 and illustrates a cross sectional view of a cable having a center round filler, insulated cable conductors surrounding the filler, and a cable jacket having internally extending splines to prevent the cable core from twisting relative to the cable jacket to maintain electrical headroom of the cable.
- 11. The sketch dated May 5, 2002 includes my signature on the upper right hand corner of the page, and my signature was placed thereupon on the same date.
- 12. The other of the sketches is dated June 10, 2002 and includes two views of a cable according to the present invention, namely an end view and a side view with part of the cable jacket peeled away from the cable core.
- 13. The sketches dated June 10, 2002 show triangular shaped splines extending inwardly from a cable jacket in the end view, and in the side view one of the splines is shown in the

horizontal center of the cable, and other of the splines are shown in phantom at the upper and lower portions of the cable.

- 14. The sketches dated June 10, 2002 includes the signature of my coinventor on the lower right hand corner.
- 15. As indicated in the PID 2002246, at least one working model or prototype of the invention was constructed on or about July 8, 2002.
  - 16. The working model or prototype of the invention was completed in the United States.
- 17. The working model or prototype of the invention included the features shown in the sketches dated May 5, 2002 and June 10, 2002.
- 18. The working model of the invention worked for its intended purpose to prevent twisting of the cable core relative to the cable jacket and to preserve electrical headroom of the cable.
- 19. The PID 2002246 is witnessed by four different persons having knowledge of the working model or prototype of the invention.
- 20. As further evidence that the Claimed Invention of the Subject Application was conceived and reduced to practice before the filing date of the Antedated Reference, attached hereto as exhibit B are true and accurate copies of production drawings including two drawing sheets of cable according to the Claimed Invention.
- 21. The production drawings are dated February 20, 2003 in the drawing legend at the bottom of the drawing sheets.
- 22. The production drawings are included in the Subject Application to describe and illustrate the Claimed Invention.

- 23. Cable having the features shown in the production drawings was actually constructed in the United States at a date prior to March 14, 2003.
- 24. The cable constructed from the production drawings worked for its intended purpose to prevent twisting of the cable core relative to the cable jacket and to preserve electrical headroom of the cable.
- 25. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on Information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

chard Walter Socer (Dat

ATTACHMENT A

COMPLETE AND RETURN TO: TWC 3 (12/95) The Whitaker Corporation (M/S 324-01) 4550 New Linden Hill Road, Suite 450 Wilmington, DE 19808 WVENTION DISCLOSURE DATE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF INVEN Thuglute SPLINE Jacket
WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH THE STATE OF THE ART, OR PRIOR ART TECHNOLOGY? WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE INVENTION? 19-13-02 ATTachment #1 WHAT ARE THE NEW FEATURES OF THE INVENTION WHICH OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM? Sce ATTechment #2 ON SEPARATE DRAWINGS OR SKETCHES, DESCRIBE THE FEATURES OF THE INVENTION AND HOW THEY WORK. ARE THESE ENCLOSED? X YES □ NO IDENTIFY THE CLOSEST PRIOR ART TECHNOLOGY, IF ANY, OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE. PROVIDE COPIES IF AVAILABLE. N/A ENTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OR THE FIRST DATED SKETCH OF INVENTION AND ATTACH COPIES. 5-1-02 ENTER THE DATE A WORKING MODEL, DEVICE OR PROCESS WAS OR WILL BE COMPLETED. 7-8-02 GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF INITIAL DISCLOSURE OUTSIDE AMP COMPANIES None **⊠** NO ☐ YES ARE THEY CAD? □ NO X YES ARE LATEST DRAWINGS ENCLOSED? IF CAD, WHO SHOULD BE CONTACTED TO RETRIEVE CAD FILES? INVENTOR'S FULL NAME (incl. full middle name) BUSINESS PHONE AMP EMPLOYEE NO. DIVISION DIVISION MAILSTOP MAILSTOP CITIZENSHIP CITIZENSHI HOME ADDRESS COLE PD ERSTILLE, NC 27284 Oak Ridge NC 21310 SIGNATURE DATE 12-13-02 WITNESS WITNESS WITNESS DIVISION MGR NAME & PHONE 336-665-6631 FOR THE WHITAKER CORPORATION USE ONLY ---2002 2002246 THE WHITAKER CORPORATION (302) (0

### Attachment #1

Jacket designs that are used today are smooth on the inside where they are in contact with conductors. This does not hold the conductors in a securer position inside the diameter of the jacket. The new design has ribs inside the jacket that are parallel with the conductors and hole them in a securer position inside the jacket diameter.

#### Attachment #2

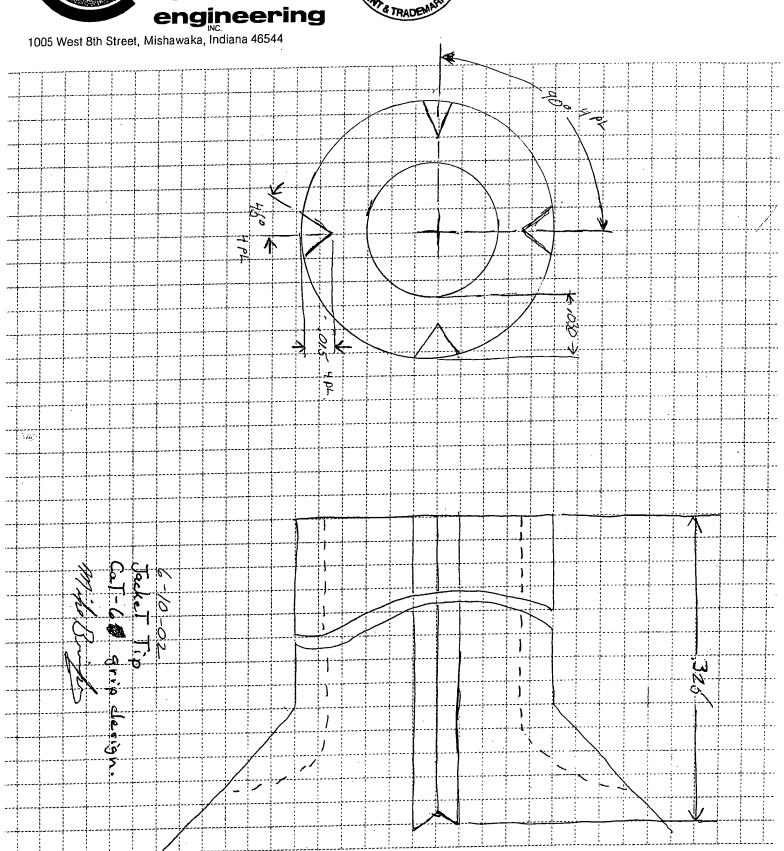
The features that have over come the moving of the conductors inside the jacket diameter are rids that are evenly spaced around the inside diameter of the jacket. These spline's run in parallel with the conductors that are inside the jacket diameter.

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TOOLS DIES JIGS & FIXTURES



ZUWhn REFERENCE SPLINE JACKET FILE 05MA-102 INCHES 3

DAY-TIMERS RE-ORDER No. 90883 - Printed in USA

ATTACHMENT B

